

The Claims

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) In a transmission housing in which a fragile pin serves as retention means for an axle for one or more spider gears in a differential carrier, the improvement comprising

- a) a sleeve which encircles the differential carrier inside the transmission housing at a point in which the axle is mounted for rotation in the differential carrier, said sleeve being formed as an annulus with a having a width at least as great as a diameter of the axle;
- b) means to attach said sleeve to a ring of a ring and pinion of the differential carrier including [[The improvement of Claim 2, wherein said means to attach said sleeve comprises]] a pair of legs extending from opposed edge portions of said annulus, each of said legs having a laterally extending foot[[]];

whereby when the fragile pin becomes disengaged with the axle, said sleeve retains the axle within the differential carrier preventing the axle from damaging the transmission housing.

- 4. (original) The improvement of Claim 3 wherein each said foot has a hole there through which overlies a bore in the ring of the differential carrier.